

ARGUMENTS/REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe and claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 3-10, 13-23, and 25-42 remain in this application. Claims 11-12 and 24 have been canceled. No new issues are raised by any claim amendments. If the Examiner believes that new issues are raised by the amendments, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss this matter.

The examiner has not indicated if the drawings are acceptable.

Claims 3-10, 13-18, 25-35, 37-38, and 42 have been allowed.

Claims 36 and 39-41 have been objected to as being in improper independent form for improperly depending on more than one claim. Applicant's representative disputes that the claims 36 and 39 are improper, as nowhere up the chain of dependency is there another multiple dependent claim, and the dependency language is acceptable. Accordingly, the objections to these claims should be withdrawn. If the Examiner believes that these objections are proper, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss this matter.

Claims 40-41 have been amended to put them into proper form, making the objections moot.

Claims 1-2, 11-12, and 19-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Peter *et al.* (U.S. WO 01 76321). For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-2 and 11-12 have been canceled, making the rejections moot. Claims 19-21 and 23 have been amended to depend only on allowed claims, and thus are also allowable. Claim 22 depends on claim 21, and thus is also allowable.

Accordingly, all remaining claims are allowable for the reasons discussed above.

In consideration of the foregoing analysis, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34369.

Respectfully submitted,

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